

REMARKS

The claims have been amended as indicated above. The amendments are being made to clarify the invention. The amendments are being made without prejudice and applicants reserve all rights and arguments. The amendments are fully supported by the specification, claims, and figures as originally filed. No new matter is believed or intended to be involved.

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's indication that claims 20, 23-24, 28, and 33-37 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicant accepts this subject matter. Accordingly, the limitations of objected claim 20 have been incorporated into independent claim 19. Objected claim 28 has been made independent and now include the limitations of the prior base claim 19. The limitations of objected claim 33 have been incorporated into independent claim 32. All remaining claims dependent for the allowable independent claims.

All rejected claims have been canceled or rewritten to incorporate allowable subject matter. While Applicant has elected to accept the allowed subject matter, please do not misconstrue such acceptance as acquiescence to the merits of the rejections. Instead, this amendment merely marks a business decision to obtain patent protection on the allowed subject matter without further prosecution. Applicants traverse such rejections and reserve all rights and arguments.

Based on the foregoing, all of the pending claims are in a condition for allowance. Applicants traverse all rejections and request reconsideration, and Applicants request an early notice of allowability.

Respectfully submitted,

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